

Jute, textile workers' sit-in on Dec 12

Pat-Suta-Bastrakal Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad will stage a sit-in in front of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) head office in the city on December 12 demanding payment of arrears before Eid-ul-Azha, says a press release. Its demands also include taking proper steps to maintain production of nationalised jute mills and implementation of the agreements done with the government.

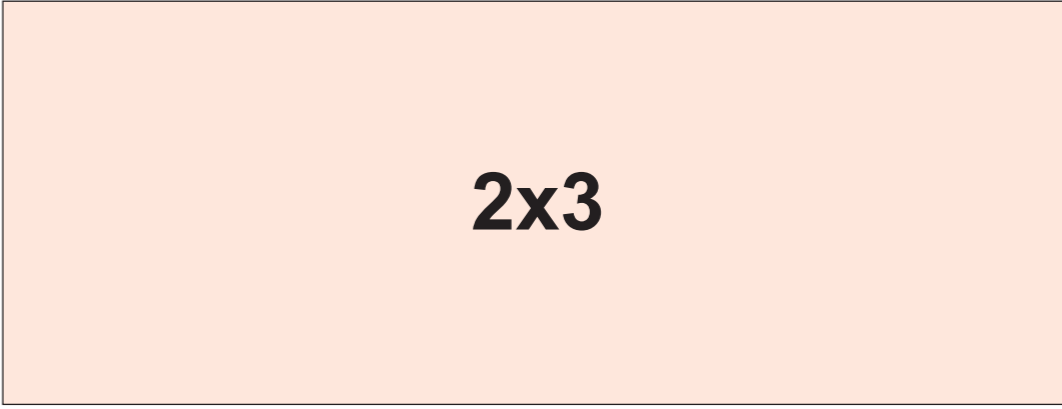
Tk 30cr Japanese food aid for the poor

Japan has provided over 8,000 tons of rice and 100 tons of canned fish worth 4.3 million US dollar (equivalent to Tk 30 crore) to Bangladesh to improve health status and community infrastructure of 2.5 lakh poor people, says a press release. Japanese Ambassador Masayuki Inoue handed over the rice to AKM Jahangir, director general of Directorate of Relief and Rehabilitation,

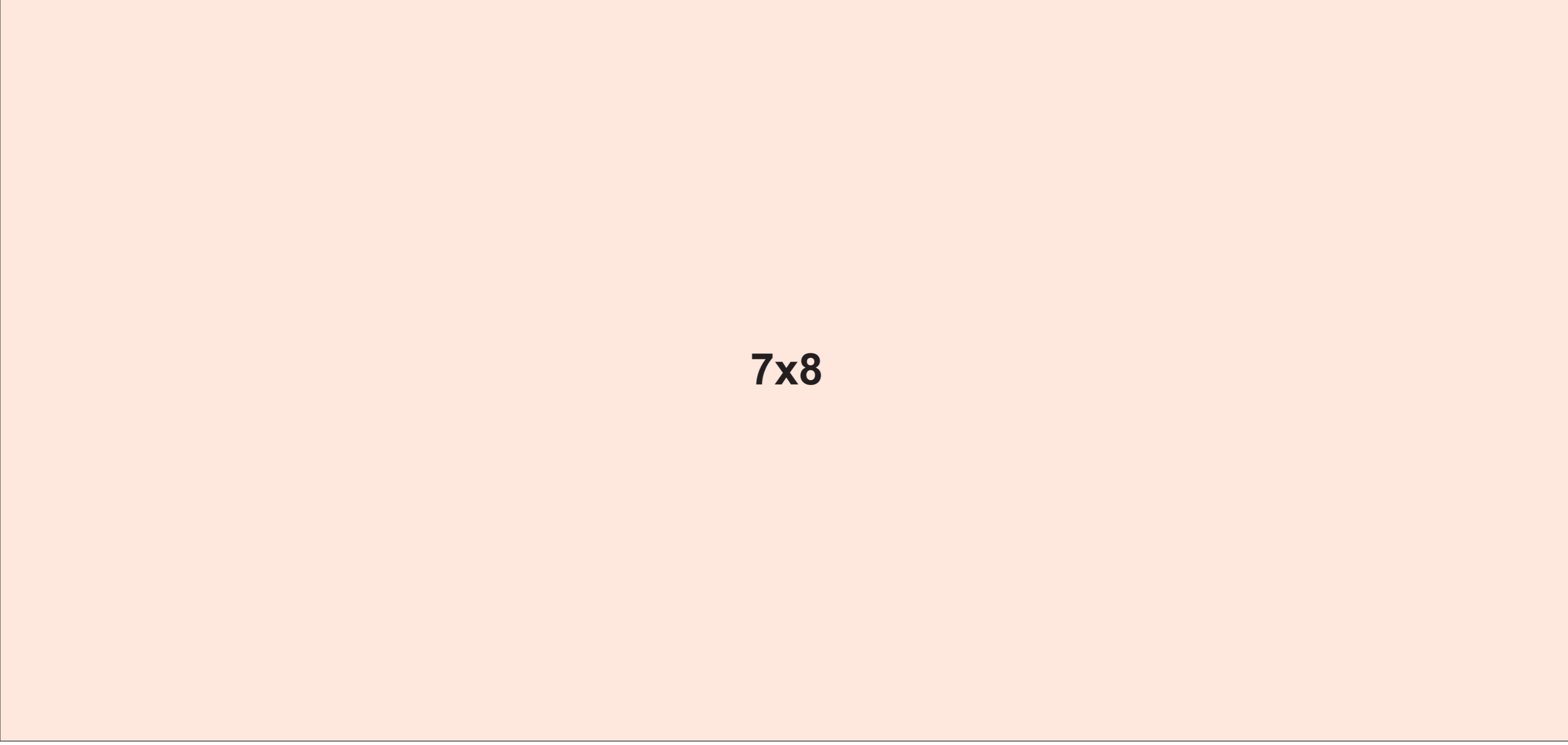
Ministry of Food and Disaster Management at a function at the Japanese embassy in the city yesterday. The food has been provided through WFP. The rice will be distributed to 40,000 ultra-poor households suffering from chronic food insecurity. The canned tuna fish, arrived in August, has already been given to 50,000 households in three months.

"Malnutrition, hunger and poverty continue to pose a serious threat to over 60 million people in Bangladesh. Our contribution aims to assist marginalised people to meet their immediate nutritional needs, and gain capacity to cope with difficulties in their lives in the longer term," said Masayuki Inoue at Japanese Embassy. "The challenge of overcoming the hunger and food insecurity

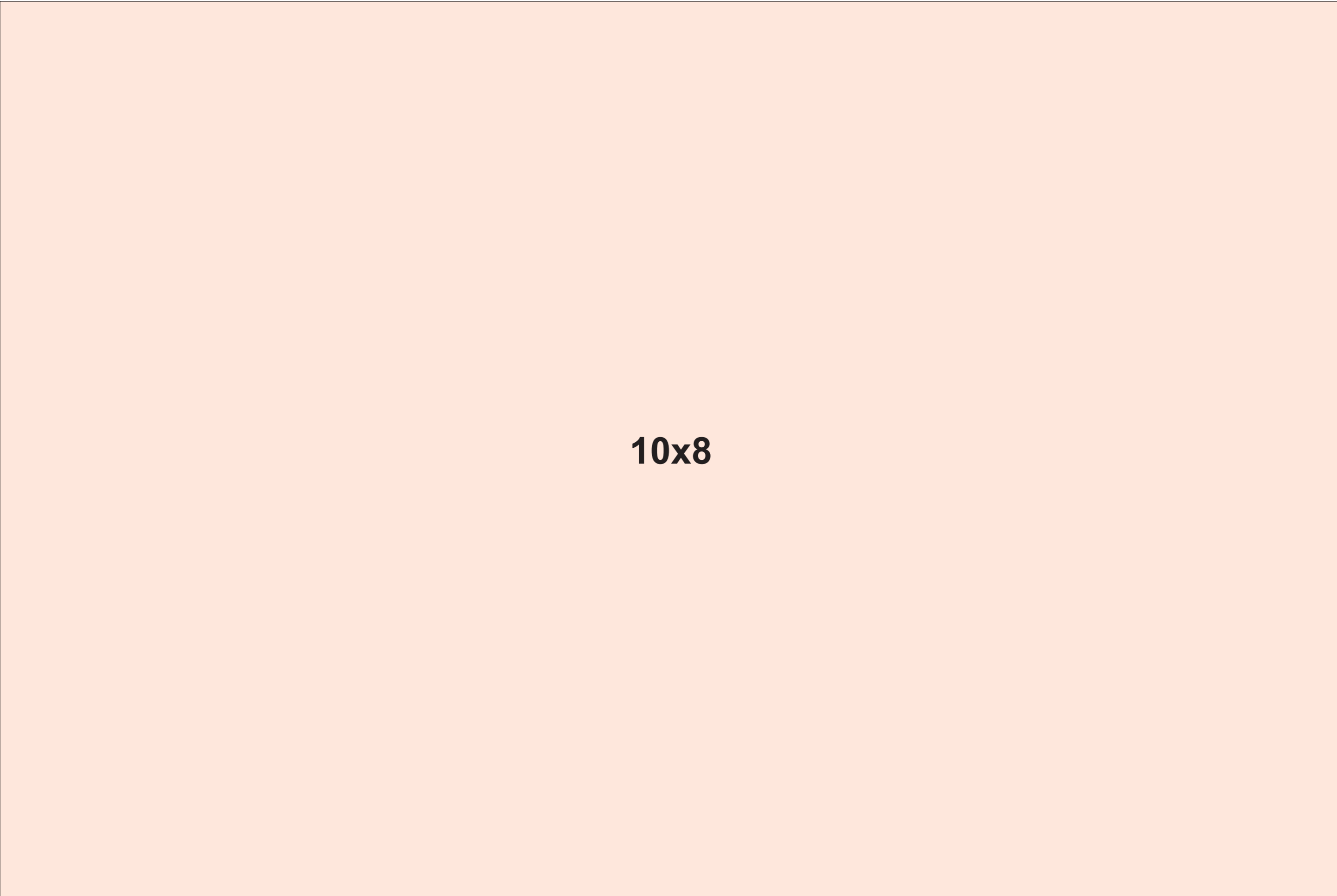
of 60 million people is immense. We are glad that the government and the people of Japan are partnering with us in facing this formidable challenge. We hope to cement this partnership further and work together to meet key national development priorities and targets," said Jahangir. Douglas Broderick, WFP Representative in Bangladesh, also spoke at the function.



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